

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A controller for a variable air volume terminal, of a variable air volume air conditioning system, comprising:

5 temperature sensing circuitry for generating a temperature process value;

setpoint determining circuitry for establishing a temperature setpoint;

10 airflow signal circuitry for generating an airflow setpoint in response to said temperature process value and said temperature setpoint;

flow sensing circuitry for generating a flow process value in response to a predetermined set of flow sensing inputs; and

15 damper control circuitry for generating a damper motor operation signal to control the damper motor in response to said flow process value and said airflow setpoint, said damper control circuitry comprising a fuzzy logic control mechanism for implementing a set of
20 fuzzy logic rule-based instructions in generating said damper motor operating signal.

2. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper control circuitry are formed sufficiently small for placement on a single

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printed circuit board, said printed circuit board formed for placement on the damper motor when said damper motor is installed in the damper shaft.

5 3. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry operate under an open protocol that permits system-wide control and monitoring of said
10 controller within said variable air volume air conditioning system.

15 4. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry are associated to permit pressure dependent operation of said controller.

20 5. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry are associated to permit pressure independent operation of said controller.

25 6. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said controller further comprises circuitry for permitting a

fire mode of operation for said variable air volume terminal.

7. The controller of Claim 1, further comprising
5 circuitry for permitting a warm-up mode of operation for
said variable air volume terminal.

8. The controller of Claim 1, further comprising
10 circuitry for permitting remote control of said
controller for controlling operation of said variable air
volume terminal.

9. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said damper
15 control circuitry further comprises circuitry for
automatically calibrating the damper stroke of the damper
in the variable air volume terminal.

10. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said damper
20 control circuitry further comprises circuitry for
manually driving the damper of the variable air volume
terminal.

11. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said damper
25 control circuitry further comprises circuitry for
automatically stopping movement of the damper at a
control stop position for the damper.

12. The controller of Claim 1, further comprising
Hall Effect circuitry for identifying and controlling
operation of said temperature sensing circuitry, said
setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal
5 circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper
control circuitry upon placing a predetermined magnet
device proximate said Hall Effect circuitry.

13. The controller of Claim 1, wherein said damper
10 control circuitry further comprises circuitry for
counting alternating current voltage frequencies to said
controller and determining from said alternating current
voltage cycles the position of the damper in response to
operation of said damper motor.

14. The controller of Claim 1, further comprising a
shield surrounding said flow sensing circuitry for
limiting affects of temperature variations on operation
of said flow sensing circuitry.

15. A method for controlling a variable air volume terminal, having a damper and a damper motor, comprising the steps of:

generating a temperature process value using

5 temperature sensing circuitry;

establishing a temperature setpoint using setpoint determining circuitry;

generating an airflow setpoint in response to said temperature process value and said temperature setpoint using airflow signal circuitry;

10 generating a flow process value in response to a predetermined set of flow sensing inputs using flow sensing circuitry; and

generating a damper motor operation signal using damper control circuitry to control the damper motor in response to said flow process value and said airflow setpoint, said damper motor operation signal generating step further comprising the step of implementing a set of fuzzy logic rule-based instructions in generating said damper motor operating signal.

16. The method of Claim 5, further comprising the step of forming said temperature sensing circuitry, said set point determining circuitry, said air flow signal circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper control circuitry sufficiently small for their placement on a single printed circuit board, said printed circuit

board ~~formed~~ sufficiently small for placement on the damper motor when said damper motor is installed in the damper shaft.

5 17. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
step of operating said temperature sensing circuitry,
said set point determining circuitry, said air flow
signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry under
an open protocol that permits system-wide control and
10 monitoring of said controller within said variable air
volume air conditioning system.

15 18. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
step of associating said temperature sensing circuitry,
said set point determining circuitry, said air flow
signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry to
permit pressure dependent operation of said controller.

20 19. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
step of associating said temperature sensing circuitry,
said set point determining circuitry, said air flow
signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry to
permit pressure independent operation of said controller.

25 20. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
step of permitting a fire mode of operation for said
variable air volume terminal.

21. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of operating said variable air volume terminal in a warm-up mode of operation.

5 22. The method of Claim 15, further comprising circuitry for permitting remote control of said controller for controlling operation of said variable air volume terminal.

10 23. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of automatically calibrating the damper stroke of the damper in the variable air volume terminal.

15 24. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of manually driving the damper of the variable air volume terminal.

20 25. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of automatically stopping movement of the damper at a control stop for the damper.

25 26. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of identifying and controlling operation of said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper control circuitry by

placing a predetermined magnet device proximate a Hall Effect circuit of the controller.

27. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
5 step of counting alternating current voltage frequencies to the controller and determining from the alternating current voltage cycles the position of the damper in response to operation of the damper motor.

28. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the
10 step of limiting affects of temperature variations on operation of said flow sensing circuitry using an enclosed shield surrounding the airflow signal circuitry.

29. A variable air volume air conditioning system,
comprising:

a controller for a variable air volume terminal;
a variable air volume terminal comprising a damper,
5 a damper motor associated to move said damper, and a
terminal controller for controlling operation of said
damper motor, said terminal controller comprising:

temperature sensing circuitry for generating a
temperature process value;

10 setpoint determining circuitry for establishing
a temperature setpoint;

airflow signal circuitry for generating an
airflow setpoint in response to said temperature
process value and said temperature setpoint;

15 flow sensing circuitry for generating a flow
process value in response to a predetermined set of
flow sensing inputs; and

damper control circuitry for generating a
damper motor operation signal to control the damper
20 motor in response to said flow process value and
said airflow setpoint, said damper control circuitry
comprising a fuzzy logic control mechanism for
implementing a set of fuzzy logic rule-based
instructions in generating said damper motor
25 operating signal.

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30. The system of Claim 29, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper control circuitry are formed sufficiently small for placement on a single printed circuit board, said printed circuit board being formed for placement on the damper motor when said damper motor is installed in the damper shaft.

31. The system of Claim 29, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry operate under an open protocol that permits system-wide control and monitoring of said controller within said variable air volume air conditioning system.

32. The system of Claim 29, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, and said flow sensing circuitry are associated to permit pressure dependent operation of said controller.

33. The system of Claim 29, wherein said temperature sensing circuitry, said set point determining circuitry, said air flow signal circuitry, and said flow

sensing circuitry, are associated to permit pressure independent operation of said controller.

34. The system of Claim 29, wherein said controller further comprises circuitry for permitting a fire mode of operation for said variable air volume terminal.

35. The system of Claim 29, further comprising circuitry for permitting a warm-up mode of operation for said variable air volume terminal.

36. The system of Claim 29, further comprising circuitry for permitting remote control of said controller for controlling operation of said variable air volume terminal.

37. The system of Claim 29, wherein said damper control circuitry further comprises circuitry for automatically calibrating the damper stroke of the damper in the variable air volume terminal.

38. The system of Claim 29, wherein said damper control circuitry further comprises circuitry for manually driving the damper of the variable air volume terminal.

39. The system of Claim 29, wherein said damper control circuitry further comprises circuitry for automatically stopping movement of the damper at a control stop position for the damper.

40. The system of Claim 29, further comprising Hall Effect circuitry for identifying and controlling operation of said temperature sensing circuitry, said setpoint determining circuitry, said airflow signal circuitry, said flow sensing circuitry, and said damper control circuitry upon placing a predetermined magnet device in proximity to said Hall Effect circuitry.

41. The system of Claim 29, wherein said damper control circuitry further comprises circuitry for counting alternating current voltage frequencies to said controller and determining from said alternating current voltage cycles the position of the damper in response to operation of said damper motor.

42. The system of Claim 29, further comprising a shield surrounding said flow sensing circuitry for limiting affects of temperature variations on operation of said flow sensing circuitry.

43. A controller for an environmental control system, comprising:

temperature circuitry for receiving a signal representing a temperature process value;

5 setpoint circuitry for receiving a signal representing a temperature setpoint;

demand signal generating circuitry for generating a demand signal in response to said temperature process value and said temperature setpoint;

10 flow sensing circuitry for generating a flow process value in response to a predetermined set of flow sensing inputs; and

flow medium control signal generating circuitry for generating a flow medium control signal to control an
15 actuator in response to said flow process value and said demand signal, said flow medium control signal generating circuitry comprising a fuzzy logic control mechanism for
implementing a set of fuzzy logic rule-based instructions in generating said flow medium control signal.

20 44. The controller of Claim 43 wherein the flow medium control signal generating circuitry is operable to generate a flow medium control signal to an actuator,
such that the flow medium control signal represents an
25 offset, and wherein said offset represents an incremental move of the actuator.

45. The controller of Claim 43 wherein the flow
medium control signal generating circuitry is operable to
generate a flow medium control signal to an actuator,
such that the flow medium control signal represents
instructions to the actuator to move the actuator from a
first position to a second position.

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46. A method for controlling an environment,
comprising the steps of:

receiving a signal representing a temperature
process value;

5 receiving a signal representing a temperature
setpoint;

generating a demand signal in response to said
temperature process value and said temperature setpoint;

10 generating a flow process value in response to a
predetermined set of flow sensing inputs; and

generating a flow medium control signal to control
an actuator in response to said flow process value and
said demand signal, said flow medium control signal
generating step further comprising the step implementing
15 a set of fuzzy logic rule-based instructions in
generating said flow medium control signal.

47. The method of Claim 46 wherein the flow medium
control signal generating step comprises generating a
20 flow medium control signal to an actuator, such that the
flow medium control signal represents an offset, and
wherein said offset represents an incremental move of the
actuator.

25 48. The method of Claim 46 wherein the flow medium
control signal generating step comprises generating a
flow medium control signal to an actuator, such that the

flow medium control signal represents instructions to the
actuator to move the actuator from a first position to a
second position.

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